

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 263 - HB 490

March 11, 2009

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes probation and parole officers, who have a handgun carry permit, to carry a firearm under the same circumstances and conditions as law enforcement officers. Authorizes the Board of Probation and Parole (BOPP) to require such officers who intend to carry a handgun during the course of their employment to receive more extensive handgun training.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$53,600

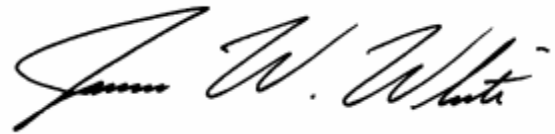
Assumptions:

- According to BOPP, officers who opt to carry their handgun during the course of their employment will be required to attend an eight-week Police Officer Standard Training (POST) certified training course while on administrative leave at the officer's cost. These officers would also be required by BOPP to carry a minimum bond of \$1,000,000. The cost of the bond would be paid by the officer not BOPP.
- The Board currently has 12 officer positions that are commissioned or eligible to be commissioned to carry handguns during their employment. These officers are authorized to make arrests on behalf of the Board as part of the Apprehension Unit. BOPP currently has a set of standards, policies and procedures for these armed officers.
- According to BOPP, the current policies and procedures which apply to the Apprehension Unit would need to be revised for other officers who opt to carry their handgun at work as the job duties and goals would be different. There are approximately 800 officers who would be eligible to carry a handgun during their employment. The average salary and expense of this additional training will prevent some officers from taking advantage of this option. Officers who opt to carry their handgun at work will incur an estimated cost of \$6,000 for the initial training and for eight-weeks of administrative leave.
- In order to ensure that these officers receive the initial training, annual re-certification, and maintain the required \$1,000,000 bond, BOPP will require one additional position for further policy development, training coordination, monitoring, and evaluation. Recurring expenditures of

\$53,600 include the salary and benefits (\$45,153) for a probation and parole program specialist, training (\$500), travel (\$3,000), supplies (\$1,300), telephone (\$360), interdepartmental charges (\$1,170), office space (\$1,314), and safety equipment (\$800).

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and last name "White" clearly legible, and "W." in the middle.

James W. White, Executive Director

/lsc